

TEIGNMOUTH
Urban and Port Sanitary Districts.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

**Report on the Administration of the
Factory and Workshop Act.**

Surveyor's Report on the Water Supply.

Meteorological Report.

1920.



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REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1920.

Teignmouth Urban Sanitary District.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

For the first time since 1914 I am able to present my Annual Report in a form more nearly approaching the pre-war standard than has been possible during the past six years.

VITAL STATISTICS.

As most vital statistics are calculated on the population, their value will depend to a great extent upon the correctness of the estimate of the population; the further one gets from each decennial census, the greater is the liability to either, over or under estimate, the population with corresponding errors in the results.

During the war the difficulty of correctly estimating the population was further increased by the absence of so many on War Service. The Registrar General undertook the work of estimating the populations of different areas, and he gave us a different population for estimating the Birth Rate to that for the Death Rate.

A new census is due in 1921 and we shall then feel that the Vital Statistics are accurate and more value can be attached to them.

BIRTH RATE. The population from which the Birth Rate is estimated is 9255.

The total number of births registered in the urban district during 1920 was as follows :—

	Male	Female	Total
Teignmouth ..	82	73	155
Shaldon ..	12	9	21
Total ..	94	82	176

Of this number 3 male and 3 female births were certified as illegitimate or 3·409 per cent. of the total.

The Birth Rate is the number of births per 1000 of the Population; the Birth Rate for 1920 was therefore 19·01, being 9·18 above that of last year.

Table comparing Birth Rate of Teignmouth Urban District with that of England and Wales.

Year	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	
England and Wales...	21·6	17·8	17·7	18·5	*	*Not yet known.
Teignmouth and Shaldon ...	14·40	11·42	9·02	9·83	19·01‡	‡Highest since 1909

VACCINATION. I am indebted to Mr. F. H. Rogers for supplying me with statistics regarding the vaccination of infants in the district during 1920. Of the 176 registered births :—

86 (or 48·86%) were vaccinated successfully.

1 (or ·57%) was insusceptible to vaccination.

64 (or 36·36%) obtained exemption.

3 (or 1·71%) died before being vaccinated.

22 (or 12·5%) have not been done at the end of the year.

I have no means at my disposal of comparing these figures with those of previous years, but would point out that the number of exemptions (36·36%) is a great deal higher than it ought to be, and the proportion of successful vaccinations (48·86%) ought to be higher than it is.

DEATH RATE. The population on which the Death Rate is estimated is 9153.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring within the Urban District during the year 1920 was 115, consisting of 44 males and 71 females; this figure gives a Crude Death Rate of 12·56. These 115 deaths include 12 visitors who died in the district but do not include 22 residents who died elsewhere; by deducting the 12 visitors from and adding the 22 residents to the crude total, one obtains a corrected total of 125 deaths (consisting of 45 male and 80 female) and a Corrected Death Rate of 13·66.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE. The Infantile Death Rate is the number of deaths under 1 year per 1000 births. There were 5 deaths under 1 year during 1920 and this gives an Infantile Death Rate of 28·409 for the year, as compared with 131·31 in 1919 and 93·02 in 1918.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1920.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TEIGNMOUTH.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All ages	Under 1	1 & under 2	2 & under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 45	45 & under 65	65 & upwards	
All Causes { Certified ..	125	6	2	1	3	3	12	27	71	136
Uncertified ..	2							1	1	2
Enteric fever ...	1						1			1
Small Pox ...										
Measles ...										
Scarlet Fever ...										
Whooping Cough ...										
Diphtheria and Croup ..	2				2					2
Influenza ...	4		2				1		1	4
Erysipelas ...										
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	8					3	2	3		9
Tuberculous Meningitis...										
Other tuberculous diseases	2						1	1		2
Cancer, malignant disease	21						1	8	12	21
Rheumatic Fever ...										
Meningitis ...										
Organic Heart Disease ...	9						1	2	6	10
Bronchitis ...	14			1			1		12	16
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	9						2	1	6	9
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs ...	1							1		1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis .	1	1								1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1				1					2
Cirrhosis of liver ...										
Alcoholism ...										
Nephritis & Bright's disease	3								3	4
Puerperal fever ..										
Other accidents and dis- eases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...										
Congenital Debility and Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth .	5	5								5
Violent Deaths, exclud- ing Suicide ...	1								1	2
Suicide ...	1						1			1
Other Defined Diseases ...	44						1	12	31	47
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...										
Totals ..	127	6	2	1	3	3	12	28	72	138

TABLE.

Showing Infantile Mortality during 1920.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	4-6 Months	7-9 Months	10-12 Months	Total under 1 year.
All Causes } Certified ..	2				2	1	1	1		5
} Uncertified.										
Wasting Diseases ..						1	1			2
Prematurity ..	1				1					1
Gastro Intestinal ..								1		1
Convulsions ..	1				1					1
Other causes ..										
Totals ..	4				4	2	2	2		10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

An outbreak of Diphtheria during November and December was the only epidemic of any consequence during the year.

Owing to the notification of Measles having been discontinued as from December 31st, 1919, one has had no official information as to the prevalence of this disease during the year, but as far as one's personal experience is concerned, the district appears to have been fairly free from it during 1920.

Returns of the notifiable infectious diseases are made every week to the Ministry of Health and the County Medical Officer of Health.

Specimens from suspected cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid and Tuberculosis are examined free at the County Council Laboratory in Exeter. I have no information at my disposal as to the total number of specimens sent from the district during the year or the result of their examination.

I append Table A showing the age-incidence of all notifiable infectious diseases that occurred in the district during 1920.

TABLE A.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1920.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all ages	Un- der 1 year	1—5	6 to 15	16 to 25	26 to 45	46 to 65	Ov'r 65	To Hospital.
Diphtheria ..	21		5	15		1			15
Scarlatina ..	6		1	3	2				2
Typhoid ..	3			1		2			1
Malaria ..	4				2	2			
Erysipelas ..	7					1	4	2	
Pneumonia ..	13	1	2	2		2	2	4	
Dysentery ..	1				1				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2							
Ac Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	1		1						
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	31			3	10	14	4		
„ other forms	8	1	2	3		2			
Totals	97	4	11	27	15	24	10	6	18

I append also Table B showing the incidence of certain notifiable infectious diseases during 1920 as compared with the nine previous years

TABLE B.

Showing the Number of Cases of certain Notifiable Diseases in the District during the 10 years, ending 1920.

YEAR	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Fever	Tuberculosis
1911	5	15	2	2			16
1912	1	8		3			21
1913	4	14				1	13
1914	6	28	3	5			19
1915	5	33	3	4	2	3	25
1916	7	12	2				26
1917	1	31	6	2	1	2	23
1918	9	21	2	4			64
1919	17	11		7	1		40
1920	21	6	3	7	2		39

DIPHTHERIA. The total number of cases notified was 21, the highest number notified in a single year since 1907. 15 of these cases occurred during the last two months of the year. The origin of this outbreak has not been discovered, but several cases were traced to a certain "standard" of the Boys' Elementary School. I inspected this "standard" with the Sanitary Inspector and was able to keep all suspects under observation, a procedure which no doubt checked the spread of the epidemic.

15 cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year. No case is discharged from the Hospital as "free from infection" until two consecutive negative bacteriological examinations have been made.

The majority of cases notified during the past three years have been of a comparatively mild type. Personally, I swab every sore throat of doubtful origin as a matter of routine, and in this way am able to detect a certain number of mild cases that might otherwise escape notice.

SCARLATINA. Only 6 cases were notified during the past year which compares very favourably with the yearly average of 18.9 during the previous ten years. Four apparently sporadic cases occurred during the early part of the year, two in Shaldon and two in Teignmouth. Two other cases occurred in Teignmouth just before Christmas; in this case, the disease was probably imported from Worthing by a boy who had been in contact with it at school there and subsequently infected his sister.

Two cases only were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

ENTERIC FEVER. Three cases of this disease were notified during 1920; the yearly average for the 10 years from 1910-1919 is two cases per annum.

In one case, a woman of 40 died after a short and somewhat obscure illness; a post mortem examination revealed a condition of affairs that led to a notification of typhoid. No cause of the illness has been offered.

The other two cases, a boy of 11 and a woman of 38, both gave a history of having recently been eating cockles gathered in the Teign estuary. Both cases recovered, the boy after having been admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

In this connection, I should again like to point out the danger of the Sewage Pollution of the River Teign not only by ourselves but by our neighbours further up the river. This

question of Sewage Pollution ought to be dealt with "in toto" and until it is, I feel confident that this district will never be free from typhoid for any length of time.

Notifications have also been received during the year of :—

Malaria	4 cases	Dysentery	1 case
Erysipelas	7 „	Ophthalmia	} 2 „
Pneumonia	13 „	Nenotorum	
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, 1 case.			

TUBERCULOSIS. A total of 39 cases occurred during the year ; 31 being pulmonary and 8 other forms. Official knowledge of every case of the disease was presumably secured on the advent of compulsory notification on January 1st, 1912 ; during the eight years between 1912 and 1919 the average number of notifications per year in this district has been 28·825.

There is no sanatorium or hospital accommodation for cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the immediate neighbourhood of Teignmouth. Under the provisions of the National Insurance Act, Ivybank Dispensary, Exeter and Hawkmoor Sanatorium, Bovey Tracey, are open for the reception of such cases, but their accommodation appears to be quite inadequate.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Bitton Hospital was opened in June, 1906, and serves the needs of both Urban and Port Sanitary Districts. Its two wings, each containing two wards with four beds in each, render it capable of accommodating but two diseases at a time and the need for further accommodation is at times much felt. The limits of the existing Isolation accommodation must be distinctly recognised ; they necessitate its being reserved solely for such cases as constitute a public danger, *i.e.*, such as are without proper lodging and accommodation or cannot be effectually isolated in their homes. It is necessary to emphasise this point in order to counteract the widely spread impression that every case of infectious disease should be admitted, irrespective of its home environment, into the Isolation Hospital ; in view of the limited accommodation specified above, and of the wisdom of reserving certain beds for emergencies (Port or necessitous cases) such a practice, however desirable, is clearly impossible.

The Hospital has a thoroughly efficient resident Matron, who is a trained and experienced nurse, and a resident caretaker. Additional nursing assistance is engaged as required. The general administration is vested in the Medical Officer of Health.

There were no inmates at the beginning of 1920. The admissions during the year number 18, comprising: Typhoid fever, 1 case; this boy was discharged cured after a stay of 59 days.

Scarlatina, 2 cases; both discharged cured after a stay of 54 days each.

Diphtheria, 15 cases; these were all discharged cured after an average stay of 32 days. There were 7 cases of diphtheria in hospital at the end of the year.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

The Infant Welfare Centre, on Brook Hill, which was founded in 1915 and has done much valuable work since, ceased its labours during 1920; the Centre had applied to the Ministry of Health for a grant which was refused unless co-operation with the County authorities was agreed to. As this was considered impracticable, the Committee resigned.

I understand that the Centre is being revived under the auspices of the County Medical Officer of Health and a small local committee.

The Notification of Births Act 1907 is in force locally.

WATER SUPPLY.

By an agreement dated July 5th, 1904, the Urban District Council of Paignton undertakes to supply Teignmouth with water from the Kentford Reservoir, recently constructed by the former body, near Holne; this water became available for consumption in July, 1908. The watershed of the stream flowing into the reservoir comprises 740 acres of uncultivated moorland; the capacity of the Reservoir is 190,000,000 gallons. The Teignmouth connection with the Paignton main is at Park Hill Cross, Ipplepen, where a meter house has been built fitted with two "Venturi" 9-inch meters. Thence the water gravitates to the existing service reservoirs:—

Hazeldown capacity, 1,550,000 gallons.

Landscore capacity, 300,000 gallons, and

Shaldon capacity, 100,000 gallons.

The distance from the Meterhouse to Hazeldown is 10 miles and the main is 9 inches in diameter; the branch main to Landscore, half-a-mile, is 6 inches; and the branch to Shaldon, three and a half miles, 4 inches. All the mains are

Mannesmann weldless steel The supply of the three service reservoirs is checked by "Venturi" meters ; and Gent's electrical recording apparatus connects the Engineer's office with the reservoirs at Hazeldown and Landscore and with the pumping station at Mylor.

The water in Kentford Reservoir is remarkably soft and pure ; its total hardness is 2·1 degrees. The Analyst's reports from time to time as to its chemical and bacteriological characteristics are entirely satisfactory.

There are three local subsidiary sources of public supply.
(i) The Haldon Spring which yields an unusually pure soft water which is piped by gravitation to Hazeldown.

(ii) The Mylor Well (depth 332 feet) which supplies a somewhat hard water which has to be pumped to the service reservoirs.

(iii) A shallow well at Shaldon Waterworks, the surroundings of which are such that it cannot be regarded as permanently free from risk of contamination.

Mr. F. W. Knight, the Surveyor and Water Engineer, has kindly furnished the following statistics of the year's water supply.

Particulars of Water Supply for Year ending 31st December, 1920.

TEIGNMOUTH—LOW LEVEL.

Mylor Well	...	27,172,850 gallons.
Paignton	... ..	37,682,150 "

Total 64,855,000

Average Daily Consumption ... 177,199 gallons.

" " Supply per head ... 31·37 "

" " " " " 1919 29·42 "

Estimated population supplied ... 5,647

Hours of Supply ... 5,889½ Rainfall ... 33·06

TEIGNMOUTH—HIGH LEVEL.

Haldon Spring	...	9,509,367 gallons
Paignton Supply	... ..	28,859,633 "

Total 38,369,000

Average Daily Consumption	...	104,833	gallons.
" " Supply per head	...	43'26	"
" " " " " 1919		43'43	"
Estimated population supplied	...	2,400	
Hours of Supply	... 7,595	Rainfall	... 31'95

SHALDON WATER SUPPLY.

Pumping from Well	...	5,259,000	gallons.
Paignton Supply	...	9,181,000	"
Total		<u>14,440,000</u>	
Average Daily Consumption	...	39,453	gallons.
" " Supply per head	...	34'65	"
" " " " " 1919		33'66	"
Estimated population supplied	...	1,168	
Hours of Supply	... 8,183½	Rainfall	... 36'82

F. STANLEY L. PIGGOTT, M.R.C.S.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

The industrial conditions of this district, with its lack of local manufactures and its large proportion of leisured inhabitants, are such that the provisions of the Act are, many of them, superfluous, while the rest are but of limited application.

The Workshops, generally, are in a satisfactory condition, and where slight defects are found to exist there is little or no objection to fulfilling the Inspector's requirements. Neither legal notices nor prosecutions have been necessary.

The Bakehouses, which are all of the Workshop class, are well kept, and are under constant supervision by the Inspector; no breach of the special sanitary regulations for these workshops has been detected. There are now no underground bakehouses in the district.

HOME WORK. The requirements of the Act, Section 108, with regard to air space, ventilation, and general sanitary condition, are satisfied; and in no single instance has any dangerous infectious disease occurred upon any of the premises in this class.

*Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1920,
for the Urban District of Teignmouth on the administration of the
Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories,
Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.*

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories ... (including Factory Laundries)	76	2	Nil.
Workshops ... (including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces ... (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)			
Total ...	76	2	Nil.

2 — DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	2	2		
Want of ventilation ...				
Overcrowding ...				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances ...				
Sanitary accommodation insufficient ...	3	2	1	
unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake- houses ...				
Other offences ... (Excluding offences re- lating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total ...	5	4	1	None.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers twice in a year.		Lists received from Employers once in a year.		Inspections of Outworkers' premises.
	Lists	Out-workers	Lists	Out-workers	
Wearing Apparel—					
(1) Making, &c. ..	6	12			
(2) Cleaning and Washing					
Total ..	6	12			

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses	13
And others	60
Total number of workshops on Register ...	73

5—OTHER MATTERS.

Class	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act ..	None
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act	3
Other	3
Underground Bakehouses:—	
In use at the end of the year	None

ANNUAL REPORT

TEIGNMOUTH PORT SANITARY DISTRICT.

The routine duty of inspection on shipping is carried out with great regularity by the Sanitary Inspector, and whenever circumstances demand it, vessels are visited by myself in person. The Inspector's Report is appended.

To the Chairman and Members of the Port Sanitary Authority.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS CARTWRIGHT AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report, giving details of the work carried out during the year in connection with my duties as Port Sanitary Inspector for the District.

As far as possible the inspection of all Vessels entering this Port is carried out as a matter of routine.

During the year, some 108 Vessels of various classes have been boarded and inspected. Of these, 45 were foreign, viz. :— French, 10 ; Dutch, 21 ; Belgian, 7 ; Swedish, 2 ; Italian, 3 ; Norwegian, 2.

In considering these figures it is necessary to bear in mind that many of the Vessels trade here at regular intervals and it is only considered necessary to examine them periodically.

LIST OF SANITARY DEFECTS.

Notices for dirty crew and quarters	...	6
Notices for dirty closets	... ..	2
Notices for closed ventilators to crew quarters		2

In each case the Notices in respect of the above defects were served on the Master and all complied with.

I am, Miss Cartwright and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. THICK,

Port Sanitary Inspector.

I append a Summary of the Shipping arriving in the Port during 1920 :—

			Number.	Tonnage.
Foreign	{	Steamers	... 22	2288
		Sailing	... 23	2364
		Fishing	... Nil	Nil
Total Foreign			... 45	4652
Coastwise	{	Steamers	... 23	3600
		Sailing	... 40	3926
		Fishing	... Nil	Nil
Total Coastwise			... 63	7526
Total Foreign and Coastwise			108	12178

The bulk of our foreign trade hails from Antwerp, Rotterdam, Genoa, Seville, France and the Baltic ; our coastwise trade from Glasgow, Runcorn, the Tyne and the Mersey. Our chief imports are coal, cement, manure, oilcake and timber, and our only export is clay.

Fishing is done from this Port from rowing and small un-registered motor boats only.

Information as to the prevalence of Plague, Yellow Fever, Cholera, etc., throughout the world is supplied to me each week by the Ministry of Health and is of considerable value in Port Sanitary Administration.

No cases of Notifiable Disease have occurred within the limits of the Port during 1920, and the weekly returns of such, regularly forwarded to the Ministry of Health and to the County Medical Officer of Health have been uniformly blank.

The Isolation Hospital, with its steam disinfecting apparatus, meets the needs of the Port, from which it is easily accessible.

F. STANLEY L. PIGGOTT, M R.C.S.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1920.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS CARTWRIGHT AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report of the work carried out in my Department during the year.

The total number of visits paid during the year was 1061.

557 houses and premises have been inspected in the district during the year. Systematic inspection of 101 premises has been made under the Housing and Town Planning Acts.

In this Report I have dealt with the various subjects under their several headings.

NOTICES AND LETTERS. The number of written Notices and Letters sent with respect to the abatement of Nuisances was 318. It is interesting to note that only in 27 instances was it found necessary to serve Statutory Notices to enforce compliance with the requisitions of the informal or preliminary notice sent.

COMPLAINTS. 40 written Complaints and 60 verbal Complaints have been received during the year respecting alleged nuisances and other matters. Several of these Complaints on investigation were found not to come under the jurisdiction of the Public Health Acts.

DRAINAGE. The drainage system of 60 old houses (42 in Teignmouth and 18 in Shaldon) have been tested with Smoke or Water. In 42 cases (32 in Teignmouth and 10 in Shaldon) the drainage system was found defective. In each case a new system of drainage was constructed, properly trapped and ventilated, inspection chambers provided, in accordance with the Council's Byelaws.

During the year, drainage has been constructed in connection with 6 new houses in Teignmouth. All the work has been carried out in accordance with the Council's Byelaws and tested on completion.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION. On receipt of information from the Medical Officer of Health, each case of Infectious Disease was closely investigated with a view to ascertaining, if possible, its origin. When cases occurred amongst children of school age, the Schools concerned were also visited and doubtful and suspicious contacts referred to the Medical Officer of Health for examination.

The infected premises were also thoroughly inspected from a sanitary standpoint and any defects found dealt with.

As a result of these enquiries I have been able to trace and discover unsuspected cases.

The number of rooms disinfected during the year was as follows :—45. Of this number, 25 were fumigated after Phthisis, Cancer, Measles, Whooping Cough, etc.

During the year 1,000 articles were subjected to Steam Disinfection by the Steam Disinfector.

Disinfecting Fluid, Powder and Soap were judiciously distributed to members of the poorer classes with apparently good results.

45 visits and inspections were made in connection with Infectious Diseases, including notifiable and non-notifiable cases.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACTS 1909 AND 1919.

During the year 101 houses have been systematically inspected under the Housing and Town Planning Acts 1909 and 1919, when it was found necessary to serve Notices for abatement of Nuisances in 92 cases.

75 per cent. of the defects enumerated in these Notices have been complied with, and the remainder—chiefly in respect of the Notices served at the end of the year—are still receiving attention.

Houses with a rental of not more than £16 per annum are dealt with under the Housing and Town Planning Act 1909. Further and important legislation has now been introduced by the passing of the Housing and Town Planning Act 1919, in which Act no limit of rental is fixed. It applies to all houses "suitable for the working classes," which latter term it has been requested should be given a very liberal interpretation. Houses with a rental over £16 are dealt with under this Act.

By this house to house inspection, conditions inimical to health are discovered and remedied, which might otherwise pass unnoticed until sickness occurs or a nuisance becomes sufficiently pronounced to cause the occupant to complain.

The number of Notices complied with can, I think, be regarded as very satisfactory, because many of the owners of the property dealt with under this heading are persons who depend for a living on the rents received, and it is a considerable hardship to enforce immediate remedy of all defects. With a little time and persuasion, very few difficulties have been experienced. Some of the houses inspected are of the back to back type, and although I feel that such houses are far from desirable as dwelling houses, providing they are kept in a sanitary condition, one does not feel justified in condemning them, under the conditions now existing, solely on this ground.

Of the houses inspected, 2 were found to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation, also part of a house (3 rooms). Special reports were made to the Council giving all defects and recommending that Closing Orders be made. In each case a Closing Order was made with the following result—one was demolished (a hut on the Harbour Beach), one is being put into proper repair, and the three rooms are not now used for human habitation. In one instance, legal proceedings were instituted against the occupier (who was also the owner), for occupying a house in respect of which a Closing Order was in force. A conviction was recorded, the defendant being fined £1.

The defects found chiefly to exist in the houses inspected were insufficient ventilation to living and sleeping rooms, damp walls, defective yard paving, defective drainage and sanitary fittings, defective roofs, want of suitable ash accommodation. One of the outstanding features observed in these inspections was the absence of a well ventilated cupboard for the storage of food.

As regards the ash accommodation, the provision of a galvanized iron sanitary dustbin, fitted with a proper cover, is being requested in place of the uncovered, unsuitable and generally insanitary receptacles which are usually found in the premises inspected, and which are a breeding ground for flies and an attraction for cats and other animals in search of food among the refuse, and it is obvious that their abolition is most necessary, but Property Owners and others are not so ready to recognise their responsibilities in this matter. So far, 40 Galvanized Dustbins have been provided throughout the District.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION. The contents of Butchers, Fruiterers, Grocers and other shops where food is exposed for sale have been kept under observation, and the contents of the Fish Hawkers stalls are constantly inspected.

Two Butchers hawk meat round the district.

UNSOUND MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. It is only fair to state that the Butchers of the town, without exception, render every possible assistance in connection with Meat Inspection, making no attempt to hide anything and at all times readily surrendering the whole or any part of a carcase when necessary.

The following are particulars in detail of meat and other foods condemned and destroyed :—

MEAT.

cwt.	qrs.	lbs	
10	0	16	Beef (Chiefly Chilled)
1	3	0	Mutton (Imported)
1	1	0	Lamb (Imported)
			1 set of Lungs (Tubercular)

OTHER FOODS.

9lbs. Bacon	1 box Hake	11 Rabbits
	4 boxes Haddocks	
	2 barrels Mixed Fish	
	157 tins of Tinned Goods	

SLAUGHTER HOUSES. There are 6 Slaughter houses in the district, 4 licensed (2 at Shaldon and 2 at Teignmouth) and 2 registered at Teignmouth.

These Slaughter houses have been constantly visited during the year and every effort is made to be present during the time killing and dressing is in progress.

As I reported to the Council in September of the year under review, none of the Slaughter houses could be regarded in any way as satisfactory, either as regards mode of construction, position, or the way they are kept. Since my last detailed report on this subject, I am pleased to be able to state, speaking generally, that a great improvement has taken place as regards cleanliness, although in one or two cases there still appear to be different ideas as regards a standard of cleanliness. My remarks on a previous occasion as to killing being entrusted to persons of tender years and the objectionable system obtaining as regards the blowing of meat have apparently borne fruit, because I notice with satisfaction that the killing is now chiefly entrusted to skilled men, and as regards the blowing of meat, in two cases the instrument provided for such a purpose is now used, and in one case they entirely abstain from blowing.

It is hardly necessary for me to urge upon the Council the desirability of taking into early consideration the question of

constructing a Public Abattoir, and until this is an accomplished fact the conditions as regards Slaughter houses cannot be satisfactorily settled.

The License in respect of a Slaughter house at Shaldon was not renewed by the Council until certain structural alterations to such Slaughter house, as required by the Council, were carried out. At the time of writing (February 14) the alterations are practically complete.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS. There are 34 cowsheds and milkshops in the district on the register, all of which have been periodically inspected.

As regards the milkshops, in one or two instances I have had to call attention to not over-clean utensils, but generally speaking the milkshops are satisfactory as regards both cleanliness of utensils and premises, except that in very few cases a proper hygienic cover is not fitted to the pans containing milk.

As regards the cowsheds, these are all kept in a fairly clean condition and have been limewashed regularly at the stated times, with the exception of two, the occupiers of which need constant reminders of their obligations to keep the cowsheds clean and limewashed regularly.

One cannot emphasise too strongly the need for a clean milk supply. I find it difficult, however, for every one in the milk trade to realise the importance of cleanly habits in connection with the milk supply.

Points that receive too little attention are the proper grooming of the cows, the cleansing of their udders, and the hands of the milkers, and the importance of giving every attention to such matters is obvious in trying to obtain a clean milk supply.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. A tabulated statement showing the work done under this head is appended to the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

During the year 3 notices were received from the Factory Inspector relating to absence of sanitary conveniences, and have all received the necessary attention.

A register is kept of workshops, and the general sanitary condition thereof recorded.

The Factory Inspector is notified of breaches of the Act, such as want of abstract and the establishment of new workshops, etc.

These premises are periodically inspected and are generally well kept. In two instances the premises required limewashing and this was immediately carried out at my request.

It is required under Sec. 107 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, that persons employing outworkers must furnish the Sanitary Authority with the names and addresses of such outworkers employed by them. These lists are required to be furnished in February and August of each year. The number of such lists received was 6. In one case the outworker resided outside the district, such information being forwarded to the district concerned.

The premises in which outwork is carried on have been inspected and in every case the premises were found in a clean condition and well ventilated.

BAKEHOUSES. There are 13 Bakehouses in the District. One new Bakehouse was opened during the year. They are periodically inspected and generally well kept.

The usual half yearly notices were served on the occupiers and the limewashing required duly carried out.

There are no underground Bakehouses in the District.

The following is a Table showing the number of Factories and Workshops on the Register :—

Description.	No.	Description.	No.
Plumbers ..	5	Tailors ..	3
Cabinet Makers ..	4	Painters ..	6
Upholsterers ..	5	Carpenters ..	5
Cycle Works ..	4	Wheelwrights ..	3
Blacksmiths ..	3	Marble Masons ..	2
Laundries ..	3	Motor Works ..	3
Carriage Painters ..	3	Printers ..	2
Bakehouses ..	13	Dressmakers and	
Bootmakers ..	2	Milliners ..	2
Saddler ..	1	Hairdressers ..	4

COMMON LODGING HOUSES. There are no Common Lodging Houses in the District.

MARINE STORES. The Marine Stores in Chapel Street and Saxe Street have been inspected during the year. No complaints have been received of any nuisance arising therefrom.

CONCLUSION. In concluding this Report, I would like to take this opportunity of conveying my heartiest thanks to the Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, as well as to the members of the Council generally, for the support and consideration extended to me.

I also wish to thank the Medical Officer of Health and other Officers of the Council, who have at all times given me their cordial co-operation and assistance.

I am, Miss Cartwright and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. THICK,

Sanitary Inspector.

Summary of Sanitary Work carried out during year 1920.

Complaints received	..	..	...	...	100
Houses and Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	557
Drains tested	..	..	...	...	60
Total number of Tests as New Drainage Work proceeded					90
House Drains blocked and remedied	...	...	...	...	16
Inspection Chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	71
Defective Traps replaced by stoneware gullies	...	...	...	...	50
Soil Pipes taken outside houses, or repaired	..	..	...	...	10
Drains repaired	..	...	...	...	13
Drains ventilated	...	...	...	...	45
Drains disconnected from main sewer	...	...	...	...	46
Yards paved	...	...	...	...	20
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	20
Glazed Sinks provided	..	..	...	...	9
New W.C. pans provided of the wash-down type (chiefly pedestal closets)	..	...	...	...	63
Notices issued, preliminary	..	...	...	...	123
" " statutory	...	...	...	...	27
New flushing apparatus provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	25
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	31
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	40
Miscellaneous Nuisances (defective floors, walls, broken sash-cords, etc., etc.)	...	...	...	...	103
Roofs, new or repaired	...	...	...	...	40
Rain pipes, gutting, new or repaired	..	..	...	...	35
Additional Ventilation provided to living and sleeping rooms	...	...	...	...	137
New Houses constructed	...	...	...	...	6
Number of House (old) drains relaid	...	...	...	...	42
Houses systematically inspected (Housing and Town Planning Acts)	...	...	..	...	101
New Water Closets constructed	...	...	..	...	27
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	1061

TEIGNMOUTH METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

The most notable feature of the year 1920 was the low amount of sunshine recorded, and the consequent general dullness.

The months that may be classed as fine, with rainfall below the average were February, June, August, September, October and November. Those classed as rough and rainy were January, March, April, July and December, and these months furnished more than two-thirds of the year's total, the monthly rainfall being greatly in excess of the average.

The sunniest month was June, with an average of 6·7 hours per day.

The rainfall for the year was closely to the average, but was 6·69 inches below last year's total.

The year's sunshine shows a decrease from 1919 of 283·8 hours, and was 230 hours below the average for the past fourteen years.

The mean temperature for the year was normal, but this was mainly accounted for by the fact that during the winter months the mean temperature was high, and low throughout the summer months.

There were no previous year's records broken.

The two thunderstorms noted, one in August and one in September, were only slight in character.

There were slight snow showers on March 7th, and snow fell rather heavily on the 12th and 13th December.

Gales occurred in the months of January, March, April, July, November, and December. Those on the 27th January, 24th November, and the 1st December, were more violent in character and accompanied by heavy rainstorms.

Month.	Mean Barometer 9 a.m.	Temperature Extremes.				Means.					Cloud
		Highest.		Lowest.		Mean of Maxima.	Mean of Minima.	Mean Temp ture.	Mean Temp ture 9 a.m.	Mean Humidity 9 a.m.	
		Temp.	Date.	Temp.	Date.						
1920											
Jan.	1013.0	58	16th-17th	27	7th	50.5	39.8	45.2	44.6	84	7.1
Feb.	1022.8	56	14th	35	22nd	50.9	42.3	46.6	46.1	84	6.8
Mar.	1014.3	58	17-8-22-3-30	29	4th	52.4	39.9	46.2	45.9	84	6.1
Apr.	1005.9	64	24th	35	1st	55.1	44.4	49.8	48.8	85	7.3
May	1017.4	68	24th	39	5th	60.7	48.5	54.6	54.3	76	6.3
June	1016.8	75	25th	43	8th	66.0	53.7	59.9	59.0	81	6.3
July	1013.2	71	15th-29th	48	25-27	66.0	54.4	57.2	58.4	83	7.2
Aug.	1020.0	74	14th	44	20th	65.2	52.8	59.0	58.0	79	5.8
Sept.	1017.9	73	5th	42	11th	65.6	51.8	58.7	56.2	86	6.1
Oct.	1013.0	68	9th	42	19th	60.5	51.5	56.0	54.4	88	7.4
Nov.	1019.3	59	17th	34	23rd	54.3	43.3	48.8	47.5	88	7.0
Dec.	1016.3	57	2nd-4th	27	16th	48.5	39.5	44.0	46.5	85	7.3
Totals	12189.9					695.7	561.9	626.0	619.7	1003	80.7
Means	1015.8					58.0	46.8	52.2	51.6	84	6.7

SUNSHINE (per Campbell-Stokes Recorder).

Month.	Total.	Most Sunshine in one day.		Sunless Days.
		Amount.	Date.	
January	60.0	6.5	21st	7
February	58.1	8.9	22nd	6
March	128.3	10.8	20th	3
April	130.0	13.0	28th	2
May	204.7	14.0	23rd	1
June	202.0	14.5	3rd	3
July	151.2	14.2	24th	3
August	166.1	12.0	20th & 27th	3
September	136.0	11.2	10th	4
October	97.9	8.7	18th	7
November	61.7	7.5	6th	10
December	57.7	6.5	4th	13
Totals	1453.7	Mean Daily Amount 3.98 hours.		62

Average Sunshine for 14 years (1906—1920 inclusive) 1683.9 hours.

RAINFALL at Den Station. (Height above Sea Level, 20ft.)

Month.	Total Depth.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		No. of Days with .01 or more recorded
January ...	5.00	.95	10th	20
February ...	0.64	.10	15th	17
March ...	4.15	.88	29th	18
April ...	3.73	.67	14th	23
May ...	1.54	.53	1st	14
June ...	1.58	.28	19th	10
July ...	3.44	.64	25th	26
August ...	1.04	.46	4th	6
September ...	1.34	.65	30th	8
October ...	2.79	.60	15th	15
November ...	1.77	.35	27th, 30th	11
December ...	4.73	.87	1st	20
Totals ...	31.75			188

Heavy Rainfalls :—January 9th, .58 ; January 10th, .95 ; January 27th, .70 ; January 28th, .56 ; March 14th, .45 ; March 29th, .88 ; April 1st, .54 ; April 14th, .67 ; May 1st, .53 ; July 25th, .64 ; August 4th, .51 ; September 30th, .65 ; October 15th, .60 ; October 31st, .54 ; December 1st, .87 ; December 30th, .53.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Month.	Gales. Force 8 & above.	Snow.	Hail.	Thun- der storms	Fog.	Ground Frosts 30deg. or below.
January ...	9	—	—	—	—	9
February ...	—	—	—	—	—	6
March ...	1	1	—	—	—	6
April ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
May ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
June ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	—	—	—	1	1	—
September ...	—	—	—	1	—	—
October ...	—	—	—	—	2	—
November ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
December ...	4	2	—	—	—	10
Totals ...	17	3	—	2	3	33

Extremes for the Year.

The highest corrected reading of the Barometer at 9 a.m. was 30·680 on March 3rd. The lowest was 28·750 on March 14th.

The highest temperature registered (in the Stevenson screen), during the year was 75° on June 25th, and the lowest was 27° on January 7th and December 16th.

The lowest relative humidity of the air at 9 a.m. was 46 on the 31st May.

The lowest temperature registered on the grass was 19° on January 7th.

The longest duration of bright sunshine was 14 hours 30 minutes on June 3rd.

The heaviest fall of rain in any one day was ·95 on January 10th.

Absolute Records.

Maximum Temperature	...	82·6	...	July, 1911
Minimum Temperature	..	22·2	...	January, 1908
Terrestrial Temperature	...	15·9	...	February, 1907
Month's Sunshine	...	366·1 hours		July, 1911
Month's Rainfall	...	9·68ins.		December, 1911
Year's Sunshine	...	1922·3 hours		1911
Year's Rainfall	...	40·15ins.		1915
Barometer Highest	...	30·769	...	February, 1908
„ Lowest	...	28·569	...	February, 1914